

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 026512
ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 SS-15 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
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DRAFTED BY EUR/SE:EDSMITH:RAH
APPROVED BY C:MNIMETZ
EUR/SE:RCEWING
EUR:REBARBOUR

-----115556 011436Z /43

P R 011426Z FEB 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY ANKARA PRIORITY
INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 026512

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, CY, TU

SUBJECT: TURKISH VIEWS ON CYPRUS

REF: STATE 13306

1. FOLLOWING DISCUSSION JANUARY 30 OF SECRETARY'S VISIT TO ANKARA (SEPTEL), TURKISH AMBASSADOR ESENBEL RECALLED, TO DEPARTMENT COUNSELOR NIMETZ THAT GOT POSITION ON PROPOSED CYPRUS MISSING PERSONS COMMITTEE REMAINS THAT SET FORTH IN WORKING PAPER 3 REVISION 3. HE NOTED THAT SUBJECT HAD BEEN DISCUSSED BY SECRETARY AND PRIME MINISTER ECEVIT IN ANKARA.

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2. ESENBEL RECALLED THAT HE HAD REQUESTED U.S. ASSISTANCE IN AVOIDING DEBATE OF CYPRUS QUESTION AT UPCOMING MEETING IN GENEVA OF UN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION (REFTEL). ESENBEL THOUGHT THAT PROPAGANDA EXCHANGES SHOULD BE AVOIDED IN LIGHT OF GOOD PROSPECTS FOR RESUMED INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS UNDER UNSYG AUSPICES.

3. NIMETZ RESPONDED THAT THE U.S. POSITION ON THIS QUESTION AT THE GENEVA MEETING HAD NOT YET BEEN WORKED OUT AND HE COULD NOT PREDICT WHAT ROLE USDEL WOULD PLAY. HE RECALLED THAT AT UNGA THIRD COMMITTEE LAST FALL U.S. HAD

HELPED AVOID DEBATE ON MISSING PERSONS ISSUE BECAUSE IT APPEARED THAT COMMITTEE WAS ABOUT TO BE ESTABLISHED. IN REPLY TO TURKISH OBJECTION REGARDING MAJORITY DECISION IN MISSING PERSONS COMMITTEE, NIMETZ EXPLAINED THAT ICRC REPRESENTATIVE DID NOT VOTE IN SUCH SITUATIONS, BUT WOULD BE PREPARED TO ASSIST IN TECHNICAL MANNER. THEREFORE, AS PRACTICAL MATTER, NIMETZ THOUGHT THAT TURKISH CONCERNS WERE MORE OF A THEORETICAL/PHILOSOPHICAL NATURE; IT WAS INDEED DISAPPOINTING THAT COMMITTEE HAD NOT BEEN CONSTITUTED, BUT THIS WAS NOT OUR ISSUE, BUT RATHER ONE FOR PARTIES TO ADDRESS. WE WERE PREPARED TO SUPPORT TURKISH CYPRIOT PARTICIPATION IF CYPRUS ISSUE WERE RAISED, AND WE AGREED THAT PROPAGANDA EXCHANGES IN GENEVA WOULD NOT HELP ADVANCE CYPRUS CAUSE, BUT NIMETZ SAID HE COULD NOT GO FURTHER IN PREDICTING U.S. POSTURE ON CYPRUS QUESTION AT UNHCR MEETING. VANCE

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